

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

DEPARTMENT OF LAND ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT

159 Pantigo Road East Hampton, NY 11937 (631) 324-7420

Town of East Hampton Community Preservation Fund Advisory Board Minutes ZOOM Meeting, February 28, 2022

Present:

Advisory Board Members: Philip O'Connell, David Doty, Christine Ganitsch, Rav Freidel, Jim Kiley

Town Employees: Scott Wilson, Jeremy Samuelson, Brian Frank

Peconic Land Trust: Kim Quarty

Councilman: David Lys

Meeting called to order by Philip at 3:32 PM.

Prior minutes from January 10, 2022 were approved.

Public Comment Period:

Guests present:

Irwin Levy, Jon Stoner, Sara Davison, Esperanza Leon, Rona Clotman, Marietta Garvis, Sarah Kautz & David Buda

Sara Davison spoke regarding 240 Montauk Hwy & 5 Buckskill Rd., two adjoining parcels that have some structures on site. She was advocating keeping some affordable housing use- up to 4 units, but to also be aware of the sensitive wetlands on site in the planning process.

In response to Mr. Buda's request from the previous meeting, that the Planning Department Assessments for properties be released to the public prior to Public Hearings, Philip O'Connell expressed that the Advisory Board did not agree that these should be shared prior to the Town being in contract to acquire.

David Buda had questions regarding the Meier property that the Town was purchasing on behalf of the Village and in partnership with PLT- since the Village preservation plan only called for the purchase of a wetland easement, then why was the Town pursuing a purchase in fee? Wouldn't the easement be satisfactory to preserve and protect Georgica Pond?

Chris Ganitsch, Jeremy Samuelson and Sara Davison all defended the purchase in fee as the superior protection for habitat and nitrogen reduction. An easement would not prevent fertilizer and pesticide use on a landscaped property, nor run off from structures. Also, a low nitrogen septic system, while superior to a conventional system, still did not bring the nitrogen down low enough to help mitigate the high nitrogen present in Georgica.

Sarah Kautz discussed the merits and importance of restoring the Brooks & Park property, as well as the need to hire an historic consultant. Scott tried to explain that the Advisory Board was not the appropriate body to advocate for restoration or stewardship. That the Property Management Committee and or the Town Board was the appropriate venue for properties with structures on them. For other properties with regard to stewardship, the Nature Preserve Committee would be appropriate. Ms. Kautz indicated that we were not properly fulfilling our role as committee members and that we should in fact be reviewing stewardship and historic restoration in particular. The Committee was not advocating for the full 10% of the fund for stewardship.

Irwin Levy indicated that there were over 125 people that attended a hike at the Brooks & Park property in support of restoration.

Jon Stoner asked for confirmation that the CPF Advisory Board was not the appropriate venue for historic restoration, which we confirmed.

Marietta Garvis indicated that she was already working and meeting with the property management committee.

David Lys will let our AB know when we will be able to meet in person again.

The next meeting was set for April 4, 2022 at 3:30 PM.

Philip made a motion to go into **Executive Session**; seconded by Rav and carried.

Meeting adjourned by 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted;

Scott Wilson